



## POINTS OF INTEREST

- NABCA Conference
- Pappy Goes on Sale
- Underage Drinking
- Halloween Pictures
- Birthdays
- Retirement
- Promotions/New Hires
- Department News
- Auburn/Alabama Football Schedule
- History of the Christmas Tree
- Recipes

# Good Spirits

DECEMBER 2014

## ABC Board Staff Play Prominent Role in NABCA Conference

When the National Alcoholic Beverage Control Association (NABCA) looks for speakers and presenters for one of its conferences, the Alabama ABC Board is a must stop. ABC Board personnel are always ready and willing to share their expertise and insights.

During the recent NABCA Administrator's Conference in Boise, Idaho, ABC Board Product General Manager Randall Smith and Product Operations Director Nick Ketter appeared on separate expert panels discussing bailment practices and national accounts management.

The conference was held Oct. 19-22, 2014.



*ABC Board Product General Manager Randall Smith (second from left) appeared with colleagues from Montana, New Hampshire, Heaven Hill, and Remy Cointreau to discuss the pros and cons of the different bailment systems in use today.*



*Product Operations Director Nick Ketter (above right) discusses ways of better working with national accounts. The panel included representatives from state agencies in Iowa, Ohio, and North Carolina, and account reps from Brinker International and Pernod-Ricard.*

# ABC Store Associates Handle Long Lines and Limited Supply During ‘Pappy’ Sale

It didn't take long for Pappy Van Winkle lovers to learn that the state's 2014 allocation of the elusive bourbon would soon be hitting store shelves.

In fact, *al.com*, the online news service operated by the Birmingham News, Huntsville Times and Mobile Press Register, published a story on October 31, 2014, that included the specific day of Pappy's Alabama appearance. Bourbon blogs, newsletters, and email chains, began circulating the November 13th arrival date.

Since the Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery in Frankfort, KY, only ships about 7,000 cases each year, and because each state only receives a specific number of bottles, Pappy Van Winkle has developed a cult-like following.

According to the Wall Street Journal, "Each year's batch of Pappy is released in a single go, with a state-by-state allocation. The priority is to get the bottles to "good homes" that have long-running credibility as appreciators of good bourbon.



A bottle of 23-year old Pappy Van Winkle Kentucky Bourbon sold at retail for \$249.99.

The company has resisted the temptation to simply sell it all to the highest bidder."

So, with a large number of Pappy lovers and a small quantity of bourbon, how do you ensure a fair distribution.

"We put guidelines into place that we believed would give more people an opportunity to purchase the product," said Ketter. "Like other states, we sell Pappy on a first-come, first-serve basis. The demand is just greater than the supply."

Outside of ABC stores, Pappy Van Winkle often sells for more than six times its retail value.

By all reports, ABC store managers and associates handled the sale admirably.

"Our store staff are to be commended for performing in such a professional manner," stated ABC Administrator Mac Gipson. "We are already working on a plan to handle next year's sale. Regardless, I'm confident our employees will rise to the challenge."





*Lines began forming the evening before Pappy Van Winkle went on sale in Alabama. These are just a few of the photos taken by ABC employees on November 13, 2014. Above, bourbon drinkers wait outside the stores in the Birmingham area. Above right, four men camp out in Huntsville. At right, customers wait for the doors to open in Fairhope.*



# Aliceville High School Students Learn Dangers of Under Age, Binge Drinking

The statistics are disturbing. Alcohol is the most abused drug among youth today. According to the latest Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 39 percent of high school students reported drinking alcohol in the last 30 days. Twenty-four percent said they rode in a vehicle with a person who had consumed alcohol and eight percent admitted driving after drinking.

“You do not have to do what your friends do. You do not have to give in to temptation. You don’t have to drink to fit in with the ‘in’ crowd,” Teirdre Owens, the coordinator of the Pickens County Underage Drinking Coalition, told about 400 Aliceville High School students.

Owens’ comments were part of the ABC Board’s Under Age, Under Arrest Program on Nov. 17th.

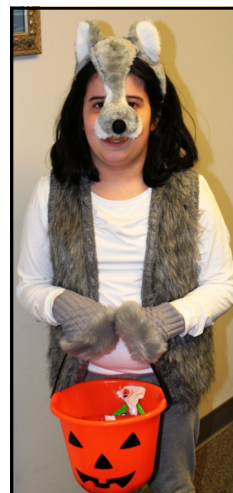
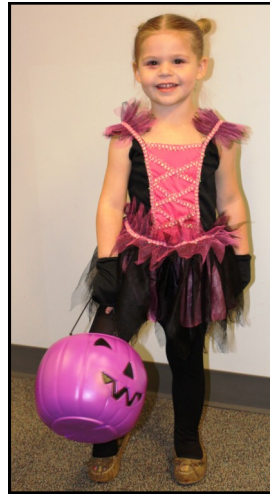
“We can’t allow one Alabama teenager to ever say, ‘I didn’t know, no one ever told me,’ about the dangers of underage drinking,” stated ABC Administrator Mac Gipson.

“I am so proud of our employees and how they work hard every day to ensure that no one under the age of 21 ever buys alcohol from one of our stores,” Gipson said.





# Trick-or-Treaters Haunt ABC Board Office





**January 1**

Tammy Maxwell, Store #153

**January 2**

Rodrecus Johnson, Warehouse

Rebecca Montgomery, Store #73

**January 3**

Angela Reed, Store #83

Jane Floyd, Store #51

**January 5**

Brandon Watkins, Warehouse

Willie J. Boyd, Warehouse

**January 7**

Renea Roberts, Licensing

**January 8**

Kijeka Finch, Store #140

**January 9**

Catherine Sistrunk, Product Management

Steven Finley, Store #22

**January 10**

John Atchley, Store #66

Laurie McClung, Store #149

**January 11**

Susan Hood, Stores Ass't Dir North

Lee Harrison, Store #72

Gwenderlyn Reed, Store #61

**January 13**

Jeanette Delisle, Store #179

**January 14**

Aaron Caldwell, Warehouse

**January 16**

Steve Crosby, Store #108

Matt Wade, Store #13



**January 19**

Karina Hunter, Licensing

**January 20**

Marilyn Jones, Store #76

**January 21**

Jimmy Blagg, Accounting

Kyle Jackson, Store #79

**January 22**

Sharon Moore, Store #132

**January 23**

Anthony Crenshaw, Store #192

**January 24**

Dana Peters, Store #196

**January 25**

Ashley Pruitt, Licensing

LaTasha Grey, Store #114

Eddie Perterson, Store #140

Gerald Robinson, Store # 137

**January 26**

Patricia Meadows, Store #44

**January 27**

Byron Wood, Warehouse

**January 28**

Stephen Ellison, Store #64

**January 29**

Renee Ferraz, Front Office

Sarah Arrington, Floater D#10

**January 30**

James McKinnon, Warehouse

Brenda DaSliva, Store #126



### **Birthday Correction:**

Benedict Don Morrison II, Store #62 Birthday was the 9th of November not the 7th of November.



### **Congratulations on your Retirement:**

**Stan Wray, Store #175**

**Hilda Bozzelli, Store #44**



From Left to right – Janet Williams, Tangela Satcher, Tina Rainer, Brenda Williams, Debbie McKinney, Hilda Bozzeli (the honoree) and Patricia Meadows



**Hilda Bozzelli, Store #44**

On November 25, 2014, the ladies from Store #44 honored Hilda Bozzelli with a Surprise Retirement Dinner at Los Reyes in Jasper, Alabama. Ms Bozzelli's last day of employment was on November 29, 2014 after 10 years of service to the ABC Board. Hilda will be missed by all that worked with her.



**Welcome to the ABC Board:**

Stephen Ellison, Sales Associate—Store #64

Samuel Henries, Sales Associate—Store #87



**Congratulations on your Promotion:**

Tina Kirby, Manager II—Store #104

Carrie Harkins, Manager I—Store #9

Genevieve Richardson, Manager III—Store #102

## Store Division



**Store #61—  
Saraland—  
Getting into the  
Halloween  
Spirit!**



**Store #19— Decatur—  
Getting into the  
Halloween Spirit!**



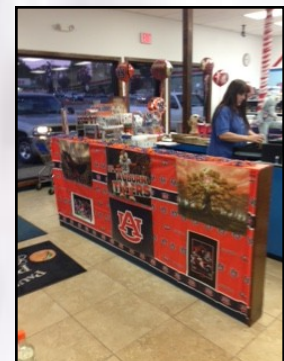
**Store #182—Mobile—  
Happy Turkey Day!**

**Store #64 getting  
into the Christmas  
Spirit**



**Store #142—Greenville  
Decoration for the Iron  
Bowl!**

**WAR EAGLE/ROLL TIDE**

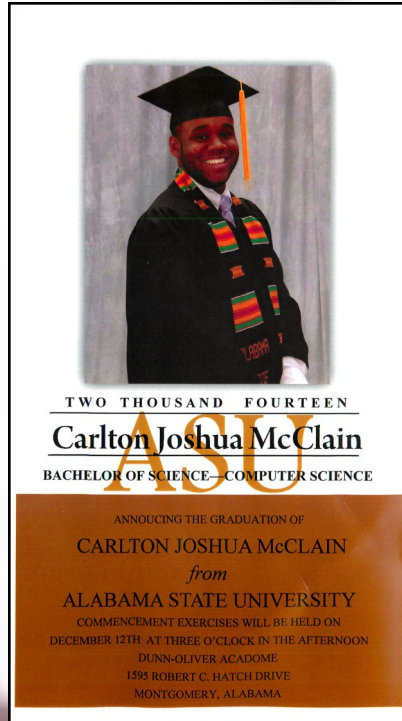




## Store Division



Percival Ethridge Operations Mgr  
District 6 presenting 25 year service  
pin to Lennie Spencer Store Mgr Store  
142.



Congratulations to Carlton J. McClain on his upcoming graduation from ASU. He will be graduating on December 13 with a Bachelor in Computer Science. Carlton is the son of Carlton McClain, Manager at Store #53- Madison.

**On November 20 Janet Geddie, Stores Division celebrated her 60th Birthday. She was treated to a surprise when she arrived to work.**

**Happy Birthday Janet!**



11/5/2014

To: All POS Upgrade Project  
Participants

Alabama ABC Board

Letter of Appreciation

The purpose of this letter is to express  
my personal appreciation to everyone  
that played a part

within our recent POS (Point of Sale)  
Upgrade Project. While it sometimes  
seemed the project



would never be complete, everyone committed their time and effort to ensure a successful  
implementation. We even had to re-install old equipment for a short time to stores within the  
pilot group.

The IT team led by Stephen Mitchell and Pam Dennis spent many extra hours and days outside  
their normal day to day IT duties making sure that everything was tested, configured, and  
installed properly. I would like to single out Jonathon Mahlke who went well above and  
beyond his job responsibility in managing a third party company that provided the POS  
software product. We know there are still a couple of issues that need to be resolved and won't  
quit until a solution is found.

Equally important were our agency customers and partners. To all the store managers,  
employees, and district supervisors who met our teams outside of normal working hours and  
assisted with testing and problem resolution; we sincerely thank you. There are too many to  
name everyone but I would like to mention Debra Larison and her team.

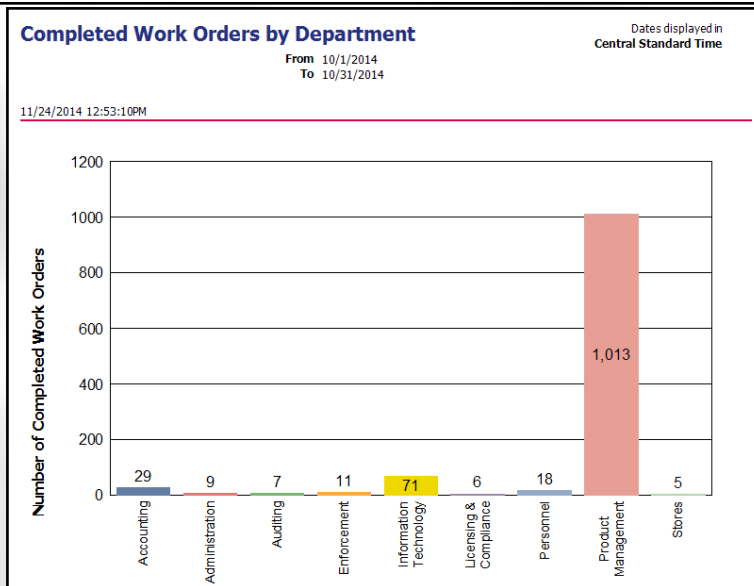
In closing we recognize that everything we do requires not only our technical expertise but also  
the partnership and cooperation of you our customer. We have other large projects slated for  
the coming year and look forward to more successful collaborations. As always, when you have  
a need, question, or problem related to the IT division contact the Help desk and we will do our  
best to meet your needs. The staff within the IT division is one of the best that I have been  
associated with in my 40+ years working in the technology field.

David Latham

Director

Information Technology Division





**State of Alabama**

**– Procedures**

### **Procedure: Delete as Spam - Emails**

Emails received through your ABC provided, Alabama Centralized Email (**ACE**) account, that are from unknown sources/senders and could potentially harmful by containing links to unknown websites or attachments that may be malicious, or could be phishing emails (*emails that attempt to obtain information about accounts, personal information, passwords, etc.*) should be handled using the following steps:

**Step 1:** Highlight the email by clicking once on the email (*without opening the email*) in your Inbox.

**Step 2:** Click the “**Delete as Spam**” button on your Outlook toolbar.

**Step 3:** Select the “**Deleted Items**” folder within your email account list, locate and highlight the email and delete – either by pressing the **Delete** key on your keyboard or right clicking on the email and selecting **Delete** from the list.

If you have any problems with this procedure, or you’re missing the “**Delete as Spam**” button on your Outlook toolbar, please contact the ABC IT—Helpdesk:

- ☐ Toll free: **1-800-518-2571**
- ☐ Direct: **(334) 271-3844**
- ☐ Central Office extension: **571**



**Auburn**  
**2014**  
**Football**  
**Schedule**

Date	Opponent	Site	Score
08/30/14	Arkansas	Jordan-Hare	45-21 (W)
09/06/14	San Jose State	Jordan-Hare	59-13 (W)
09/13/14	Open	----	----
09/18/14	Kansas State	Manhattan, KS	20-14 (W)
09/27/14	Louisiana Tech	Jordan-Hare	45-17 (W)
10/04/14	LSU	Jordan-Hare	41-7 (W)
10/11/14	Mississippi St.	Starkville, MS	23-38 (L)
10/18/14	Open	----	----
10/25/14	South Carolina	Jordan-Hare	42-36 (W)
11/01/14	Ole Miss	Oxford, MS	35-31 (W)
11/08/14	Texas A&M	Jordan-Hare	38-41 (L)
11/15/14	Georgia	Athens, GA	7-34 (L)
11/22/14	Samford	Jordan-Hare	31-7 (W)
11/29/14	Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL	44-55 (L)





# Alabama

## 2014

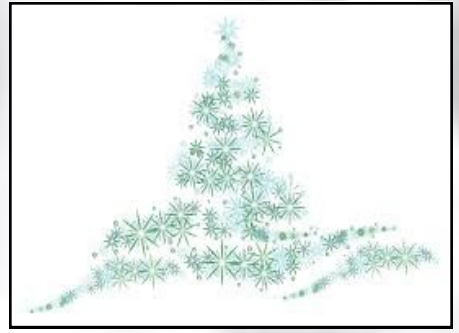
### Football

### Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Score
08/30/14	W. Virginia	Atlanta, GA	33-23 (W)
09/06/14	Florida Atlantic	Bryant-Denny	41-0 (W)
09/13/14	Southern Miss	Bryant-Denny	52-12 (W)
09/20/14	Florida	Bryant-Denny	42-21 (W)
09/27/14	Open	----	-----
10/04/14	Ole Miss	Oxford, MS	17-23 (L)
10/11/14	Arkansas	Fayetteville, AR	14-13 (W)
10/18/14	Texas A&M	Bryant-Denny	59-0 (W)
10/25/14	Tennessee	Knoxville, TN	34-20 (W)
11/01/14	Open	----	-----
11/08/14	LSU	Baton Rouge	20-13 (W) OT
11/15/14	Mississippi St	Bryant-Denny	25-10 (W)
11/22/14	Western Carolina	Bryant-Denny	48-14 (W)
11/29/14	Auburn	Bryant-Denny	55-44 (W)

# The History of Christmas Trees

The evergreen fir tree has traditionally been used to celebrate winter festivals (pagan and Christian) for thousands of years. Pagans used branches of it to decorate their homes during the winter solstice, as it made them think of the spring to come. The Romans used Fir Trees to decorate their temples at the festival of Saturnalia. Christians use it as a sign of everlasting life with God.



Nobody is really sure when Fir trees were first used as Christmas trees. It probably started about 1000 years ago in Northern Europe. Many early Christmas Trees seem to have been hung upside down from the ceiling using chains (hung from chandeliers/lighting hooks). Other early Christmas Trees, across many part of northern Europe, were cherry or hawthorn plants (or a branch of the plant) that were put into pots and brought inside, so they would hopefully flower at Christmas time. If you couldn't afford a real plant, people made pyramids of woods and they were decorated to look like a tree with paper, apples and candles. Sometimes there were carried around from house to house, rather than being displayed in a home. It's possible that the wooden pyramid trees were meant to be like Paradise Trees. These were used in medieval German Mystery or Miracle Plays that were acted out in front of Churches on Christmas Eve. In early church calendars of saints, 24th December was Adam and Eve's day. The Paradise Tree represented the Garden of Eden. It was often paraded around the town before the play started, as a way of advertising the play. The plays told Bible stories to people who could not read.

The first documented use of a tree at Christmas and New Year celebrations is in town square of Riga, the capital of Latvia, in the year 1510. In the square there is a plaque which is engraved with "The First New Years Tree in Riga in 1510", in eight languages. The tree might have been a 'Paradise Tree' rather than a 'real' tree. Not much is known about the tree, apart from that it was attended by men wearing black hats, and that after a ceremony they burnt the tree. This is like the custom of the Yule Log.



A picture from Germany in 1521 which shows a tree being paraded through the streets with a man riding a horse behind it. The man is dressed a bishop, possibly representing St. Nicholas. In 1584, the historian Balthasar Russow wrote about a tradition, in Riga, of a decorated fir tree in the market square where the young men "went with a flock of maidens and women, first sang and danced there and then set the tree aflame". There's a record of a small tree in Bremen, Germany from 1570. It is described as a tree decorated with "apples, nuts, dates, pretzels and paper flowers". It was displayed in a 'guild-house' (the meeting place for a society of business men in the city).





The first person to bring a Christmas Tree into a house, in the way we know it today, may have been the 16th century German preacher Martin Luther. A story is told that, one night before Christmas, he was walking through the forest and looked up to see the stars shining through the tree branches. It was so beautiful, that he went home and told his children that it reminded him of Jesus, who left the stars of heaven to come to earth at Christmas. Some people say this is the same tree as the 'Riga' tree, but it isn't! The Riga tree originally took place a few decades earlier. Northern Germany and Latvia are neighbors.

Another story says that St. Boniface of Crediton (a village in Devon, UK) left England and travelled to Germany to preach

to the pagan German tribes and convert them to Christianity. He is said to have come across a group of pagans about to sacrifice a young boy while worshipping an oak tree. In anger, and to stop the sacrifice, St. Boniface is said to have cut down the oak tree and, to his amazement, a young fir tree sprang up from the roots of the oak tree. St. Boniface took this as a sign of the Christian faith and his followers decorated the tree with candles so that St. Boniface could preach to the pagans at night.

There is another legend, from Germany, about how the Christmas Tree came into being, it goes:

Once on a cold Christmas Eve night, a forester and his family were in their cottage gathered round the fire to keep warm. Suddenly there was a knock on the door. When the forester opened the door, he found a poor little boy standing on the door step, lost and alone. The forester welcomed him into his house and the family fed and washed him and put him to bed in the youngest sons own bed (he had to share with his brother that night!). The next morning, Christmas Morning, the family were woken up by a choir of angels, and the poor little boy had turned into Jesus, the Christ Child. The Christ Child went into the front garden of the cottage and broke a branch off a Fir tree and gave it to the family as a present to say thank you for looking after him. So ever since then, people have remembered that night by bringing a Christmas Tree into their homes!

In Germany, the first Christmas Trees were decorated with edible things, such as gingerbread and gold covered apples. Then glass makers made special small ornaments similar to some of the decorations used today. In 1605 an unknown German wrote: "At Christmas they set up fir trees in the parlors of Strasbourg and hang thereon roses cut out of many-colored paper, apples, wafers, gold foil, sweets, etc."

At first, a figure of the Baby Jesus was put on the top of the tree. Over time it changed to an angel/fairy that told the shepherds about Jesus, or a star like the Wise men saw.

The first Christmas Trees came to Britain sometime in the 1830s. They became very popular in 1841, when Prince Albert (Queen Victoria's German husband) had a Christmas Tree set up in Windsor Castle.







In 1848, drawing of "The Queen's Christmas tree at Windsor Castle" was published in the Illustrated London News, 1848. The drawing was republished in Godey's Lady's Book, Philadelphia in December 1850 (but they removed the Queen's crown and Prince Albert's moustache to make it look 'American!').



Book, Philadelphia in December 1850 (but they removed the Queen's crown and Prince Albert's moustache to make it look 'American!').

The publication of the drawing helped Christmas Trees become popular in the UK and USA.

In Victorian times, the tree would have been decorated with candles to represent stars. In many parts of Europe, candles are still widely used to decorate Christmas trees.

Tinsel was also created in Germany, where it was originally made from thin strips of beaten silver. But when plastic/man made tinsel was invented it became very popular as it was much cheaper than real silver and also lighter to go on the tree!

One legend says that the Christ Child first made tinsel by turning spider's webs into silver after taking pity on a poor family that couldn't afford any decorations for their Christmas Tree!

Because of the danger of fire, in 1895 Ralph Morris, an American telephonist, invented the first electric Christmas lights, similar to the ones we use today.

In 1885 a hospital in Chicago burned down because of candles on a Christmas Tree! And in 1908 insurance companies in the USA tried to get a law made that would ban candles from being used on Christmas Trees because of the many fires they had caused! So we have to say a big thank you to Ralph Morris for making Christmas safer!

The most lights lit at the same time on a Christmas tree is 194,672 and was done by Kiwanis Malmedy / Haute Fagnes Belgium in Malmedy, Belgium, on 10 December 2010!

Many towns and villages have their own Christmas Trees. One of the most famous is the tree in Trafalgar Square in London, England, which is given to the UK by Norway every year as a 'thank you' present for the help the UK gave Norway in World War II. The White House in the USA has had a big tree on the front lawn since the 1920s.







## Kahlúa Hot Chocolate

### Ingredients:

2 cups Milk  
2 Tablespoons Sugar  
1 1/2 Tablespoon Dutch-processed unsweetened cocoa powder  
1/4 Teaspoon Cinnamon  
Pinch of Nutmeg  
1 Ounce Kahlúa Coffee Liqueur

Mini Marshmallows, for serving

Salted Caramel, for serving

Chocolate Syrup, for serving

### Preparation:

In a medium saucepan, combine milk, sugar, cocoa powder, cinnamon and nutmeg over medium heat until heated through, about 2-3 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in Kahlúa.

Serve immediately, garnish with mini marshmallows, salted caramel and chocolate syrup, if desired.



### **Santa Shots**

#### **Ingredients:**

1 part grenadine syrup  
1 part green crème de menthe  
1 part peppermint schnapps

#### **Preparation:**

Pour grenadine to about 1/3 of shot glass. Carefully layer the crème de menthe, then the peppermint schnapps.

**Enjoy!**

### **Skyy Candy Cane**

#### **Ingredients:**

3/4 ounce Skyy Berry Vodka  
3/4 ounce peppermint schnapps  
3/4 ounce white crème de cacao  
1/4 ounce grenadine

Crushed peppermint candies

Half and half

Soda Water

#### **Preparation:**

Pour the vodka, peppermint schnapps, white crème de cacao and grenadine into a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake Well! Pour into a cocktail glass rimmed with crushed peppermint candy. Fill with half and half and top with a splash of soda water.







## **Holiday Hot Spinach Dip**

### **Ingredients:**

- 1 (10 ounce) Package of Frozen Chopped Spinach, thawed and drained
  - 1/2 cup Red Bell Pepper, diced
  - 1 tablespoon Minced Garlic
- 1 (6.5 ounce) Jar Artichoke Hearts, drained and mashed
  - 1/2 cup Sour Cream
  - 1/2 cup grated Parmesan Cheese
  - Salt and Pepper to taste
  - 1/4 cup Heavy Cream

### **Directions:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix together spinach, bell pepper, garlic, artichokes, sour cream and parmesan cheese. Season with Salt and Pepper. Mixture will be thick; add cream to thin to dip consistency. Spoon into a 1-quart baking dish. Bake for 20 minutes or until bubbly. Serve with crackers or chips.



## Peppermint Cookie

### Ingredients:

2/3 cup of butter-flavored shortening  
1/4 cup sugar  
1 Egg  
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1/2 teaspoon Baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup crushed peppermint candies

### Directions:

In a large bowl, cream shortening and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg. Combine the flour, baking powder and salt; gradually stir into creamed mixture and mix well. Fold in candy.

Drop by teaspoonfuls onto greased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes or until edges of cookies just begin to brown. Remove to wire racks to cool. Yield 3 1/2 dozens



If you would like to have something placed in the Newsletter  
please use the following contacts:

**Accounting:** Pam Vojnovski ([pam.vojnovski@abc.alabama.gov](mailto:pam.vojnovski@abc.alabama.gov))

**Auditing:** Sissy Harris ([sissy.harris@abc.alabma.gov](mailto:sissy.harris@abc.alabma.gov))

**Enforcement:** Carolyn Burdette  
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**Information Technology:** Sylvia Temple  
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Stephen Mitchell ([stephen.mitchell@abc.alabama.gov](mailto:stephen.mitchell@abc.alabama.gov))

**Personnel:** Tonia Stephens ([tonia.stephens@abc.alabama.gov](mailto:tonia.stephens@abc.alabama.gov))

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**Warehouse:** Betty Flowers ([betty.flowers@abc.alabama.gov](mailto:betty.flowers@abc.alabama.gov))

**Stores Central Office and Administrator's Office:**

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Jennifer Holton ([jennifer.holton@abc.alabama.gov](mailto:jennifer.holton@abc.alabama.gov))  
or Dean Argo ([dean.argo@abc.alabama.gov](mailto:dean.argo@abc.alabama.gov))

**Store Personnel should contact their District Supervisor!**

**If you have any questions please do not hesitate to  
contact me either by phone or email.**

**Debra S. Moore**

**334-260-5425**